MARVEL
PSR 43

AUSTEN
CALAFIORE
McKENNA

EXILES®

A BLINK IN TIME 1 OF 3

It's me. It's *BLINK.*

I'm back.

So who did I *replace?*

Did they get to go *home* or...

NO PARKING

...oh, no...no.

Not Sunfire...not *Mariko.*

Mimic *killed* her, Blink.

Mimic killed Mariko!

W-what?

Cal, that *can't* be true?

There must be--

Clarice...

Oh, Clarice.

Don't look at me.

Please don't look at me...

BLIINNNNNK!

ELSEWHERE...

So...how much *longer* are you going to make me wait in these deserted Morlock Tunnels, oh-mighty *Tallus?*

I swear, Timebroker, if I don't get some answers *soon* I'm going to--

Ah.

Finally.

BLINKK!

I am *SO* done with this team!

Especially with *Mimic!*

Morph, wait--

I don't *care* what the Tallus says or what *you* say, Blink!

Mimic's a *murderer!*

Sunfire was our *teammate* and his *stupidity* got her *killed.*

End of story!

Look at me, Mimic.

LOOK AT ME!

All we *have* is each other--how could you *betray* us like this?!

I'm *done* with this Exiles team, and whatever *mission* the Tallus wants us to go on!

And *you* especially, Calvin!

You better *stay away* from me!

Morph, it *wasn't* Mimic's fault.

The *Brood egg* inside of him made him--

Then he should have *killed himself,* TJ.

I would have--to save any of *your* lives.

Even *his.*

Poor Mariko...

Hey guys...

...we've got *company.*

Hello. You must be the *Exiles...*

...my name is *Gambit* from *Weapon X* and I've been waiting a *long time* for you guys.

It sounds as if, um... you've been through a *lot.*

I can *relate.*

But, I've uh... I've got some *food* over here if you're hungry and maybe we can talk --

Cal, *wait.*

Let's go somewhere and *work this out.*

Illyana, where are *you* going?

Not really any of your *business*, is it?

Oh, let her go, TJ...

...maybe she'll run into *Morph* and he'll kick her tail.

Now *that* would be worth seeing.

Would *anyone* like something to eat?

I've got stale Ho-Hos and some smashed chips...

...unless you prefer *melted ice cream?*

Mimic--

Cal--where are you?

Talk to me, please?

Oh my... Cal--

--what are you--?

Cal?

Go away, Blink.

Please.

You don't know what I've ***done***.

You don't know about the ***Brood***. An alien race that--

--that lay ***eggs*** inside a host body, and eventually the body is ***taken over*** by a hive consciousness--

Cal, whatever happened--I ***know*** it wasn't your fault.

You would never hurt ***any*** of us, if you could avoid it.

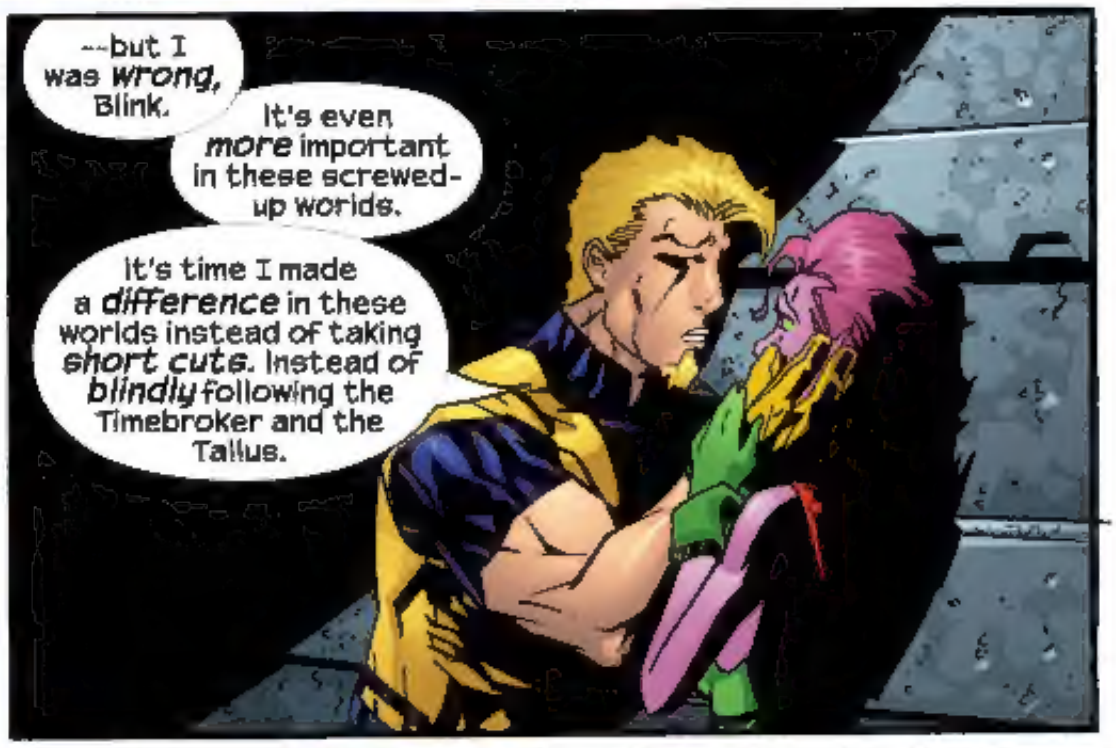
We've all done things--***had*** things happen to us that we ***couldn't control***.

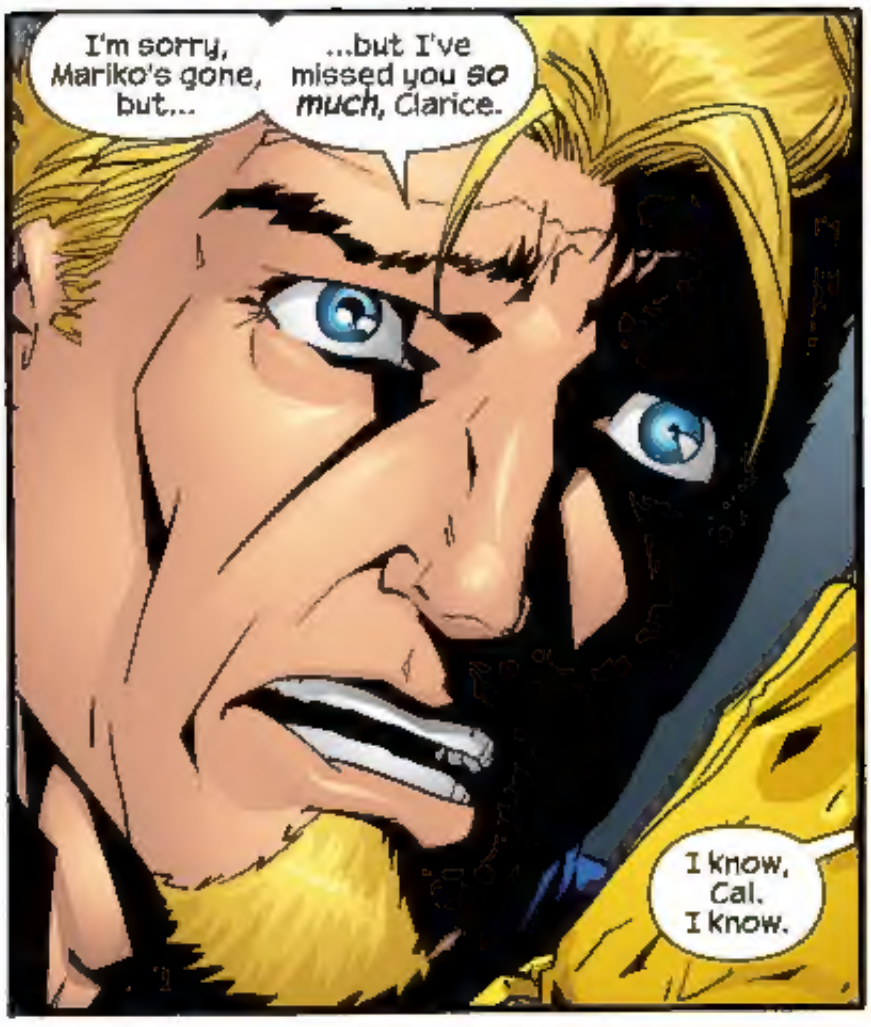
Not this time!

I should have been able to! But I couldn't regain control. I--

KLUM!

I just keep *falling* and *falling*--
--falling who I *am* and what I *believe* in.
I thought that Xavier's dream of peaceful coexistence was *secondary* to saving whole realities but--


--but I was *wrong*, Blink.
It's even *more* important in these screwed-up worlds.
It's time I made a *difference* in these worlds instead of taking *short cuts*. Instead of *blindly* following the Timebroker and the Tallus.


I'm sorry, Mariko's gone, but...
...but I've missed you *so much*, Clarice.
I know, Cal. I know.

I've missed you, too.
Everything is going to be okay, Cal. I swear to you.

I swear.

Morph, wait up.

Please.

What do *you* want, Illyana?

I just..

. I wanted to tell you that I'm *sorry* for your loss

I got off on the wrong foot with you guys and--

The wrong *foot*? The wrong *PAW*, you mean, you little--

You're a killer!

Worse than MIMIC!

Morph, my whole family is going to *die*.

The Timebroker said if I don't fix these timelines as an Exile, then I go back to my reality and slaughter my *entire family!*

I'm going to kill everyone I *love!*

All of them.

I don't know what else to *do*, Morph.

I know I might seem crazy and horrible to you, but I'd do *anything* not to have to kill my family, Morph.

Anything.

Sssh. Calm down.

We'll figure this out. I promise.

I've felt so *alone* since I was taken from my home reality.

No one understands me, Morph. No one...

What are you--

Hey, whoa, whoa, whoa!

What was that?

Now is NOT the time to--

Hey, you can morph into *anyone*, can't you?

Well, I've always wanted to be with--

Oh, *man*--you had me believing there for a minute that you weren't really a *psycho!*

Let's not spoil the moment by *being* psycho, okay?

Just because I show you some *kindness* doesn't mean I'm ready to get all touchy-feely with you.

Sunfire's dead, and I'm... I, um...

I'm sorry, Morph.

It's okay, I just--

--one step at a time, okay?

Looks like the *Wolverine healing factor* I have is still going strong

And it looks like *I've* gotten the *Tallus* back

Hey, you're right...I hadn't noticed it was *gone.*

You're the right person to be our *leader,* Clarice. You always have been.

So where did you disappear to after the Legacy Planet?

They sent me back to *Sabretooth's world.*

It was a lot later, though. The kids had all grown up.

The ones that *survived,* anyway

But I don't want to talk about that now.

We should *get back.* The others will be--

That can *wait* a minute, can't it?

I mean, the Tallus hasn't given us our *mission* yet, has it?

I suppose we could stay here for a *little* while...

So--you really *loved* Sunfire, huh?

Even though she dug chicks.

Yeah...

Yeah, I did.

It doesn't matter now, though.

I guess love and sex really have nothing to do with one another.

Men everywhere rejoice in being proven right.

Do you really blame *Mimic*, though?

I know he's a *big rube*, but he's been nothing but the hero since I've shown up...

Hey, we all know what the Brood are and how *dangerous* they can be.

But I would never put any of you in danger--not *ever*.

Not even you

Nice.

What, you have a problem with my being *honest*? We *can't trust* you, Illyana.

You're a *wild card* in a situation where all we have is *each other*. We need trust as badly as we need *air*.

Maybe you can be excused for not understanding that situation because you're *new*, but Mimic should *know better*... and he *violated* that trust.

Violated *us*, by keeping things from the team.

Where are you going?

Back to the others. They still need me.

I still need them.

Mimic screwed up, but I can't punish the *others* for it

Morph, don't go.

They'll come get us if they need us.

Why do you care *what* I do?

Because this is the first time I've felt *normal* in *soooo* long. And it's because of you.

Just let's stay here for a little while longer

Please?

Okay

Sure.

But no funny stuff.

Not even a little bit.

That's *my* department.

Of course.

"So I started to lie to *Hyperion*-- to everyone-- about our missions..."

" to *trick* them into doing what we needed to.

"It was the only way to get myself *home* to my love .

". to my *Storm.*

"It worked we for about two missions

"While Hyperion, Spider and Ms. Marvel were go ng off the deep end--

"--Hulk, Firestar and I were just trying to complete the *missions*, want ng to *get home.*"

"But eventually, Hyperion *figured it out.*"

You can no longer be ***trusted*** with the Tallus, Gambit.

AAAAAHHH!

ENOUGH!

Firestar, we're ending this now!

The Timebroker wants Hyperion dead and so do I!

Hold up there, bucko! Hype's the man!

If he can't save us, no one can!

I've been just *waiting* for a reason, you--

You're as insane as HYPERION!

"I don t know what happened *next.*

"I figured sticking around was *suicide* "

I assume that Hulk and Firestar *lost*, of course, otherwise you wouldn't be here.

I crawled down here into the Morlock Tunnels figuring I'd be *safe*.

They were pretty much deserted...

...a couple dead bodies here and there but for the most part, *nobody home*.

So Hyperion has *eyeblasts*?

Oh, yeah

His eyebeams are hot and they *cauterized* my wound

Didn't even lose much *blood*.

Lucky me

And the Tallus... well, it just *shifted arms* on me.

I wonder sometimes if he took both of my arms if it wouldn't just end up on my *ankle* or something

Gambit, do you want me to take a look at your arm? I'm a *doctor.*

No thanks. Wouldn't do much good now.

I figure if I'm not dead yet, it's not going to kill me.

So, what was your *original mission?*

That was the *weird* part...the Tallus never sent us one.

I've been down here close to a *month* and the only thing it's been saying is "*wait.*"

And if I wasn't so afraid Hyperion would find me, I would have just--

Wait a second.

It's given us a mission *just now...*

"Of the *two teams* that are here--

"--the *twelve* people from Exiles and Weapon X--

"-- only *six* will move on."

The rest *must die.*

NEW YORK CITY
TIMES SQUARE

HYPERION!

Hey, big guy! My *spider senses* just went a little *loopy!*

And that means the *Exiles* have arrived!

Perfect.

It's been a bit *boring* around here...

...what with no more *super heroes* to kill.

TO BE CONTINUED...